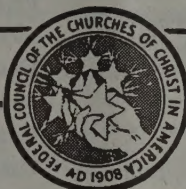


Federal Council BULLETIN

Vol. XIX, No. 6



June, 1936

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Cultivating the Grace of Giving

When the Church "Interferes"



A JOURNAL OF INTERCHURCH COÖPERATION

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Federal Council Bulletin

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VOL. XIX, No. 6

JUNE, 1936

THE EDITORIAL OUTLOOK

The Churches Move to Meet the Crisis

In the summer of 1937, there will be held two great councils of the Christian Church, attended by delegates from more than four score Christian communions in every part of the world. Their purpose will be to consider ways and means whereby Christians the world over may with greater unity face the existing crisis.

The first of these councils will deal with the coöperation of the churches in Life and Work. It will be held in Oxford in July. This council will take up the question of the responsibility of the Church of Christ in the field of action. It will deal primarily with the issues involved in the relationship between Church and State in the light of the central challenge of our day precipitated by the rise of the totalitarian state with its claim to control over all aspects of man's life.

The second conference which will follow in August at Edinburgh will come to grips with the great question of unity in Faith and Order. While frankly facing the different convictions held by different denominations, it will re-affirm those great essentials of faith in which Christians are already one. It will seek to develop this existing unity and to extend the field of community of faith and worship.

A few years ago Christian leaders said that the main challenge of the twentieth century was secularism, with its denial of all spiritual values and its emphasis on the purely material. Secularism still is a powerful enemy of the Church in our own country as in many others. But an even more direct challenge is the new worship

of the State which has gained dominion over men in the form of Communism in Russia, and Fascist Nationalism in Germany, Italy and other countries. These movements, while essentially political in character, have assumed the significance of rival religions. Each employs the totalitarian state as its agent and by its means aims to control not only man's political life, but every phase of his cultural, economic and religious life as well. Nationalism deifies the State as the be-all and end-all of existence. The dominion of that idea throughout the world would mean the end of political liberty and freedom of conscience. It would also mean the eclipse of Christianity. As Lawrence Housman vividly puts it, "If we go on making each nation a god, Christianity will die of it."

To meet this challenge the Church has available a potential force of some 650,000,000 enrolled members throughout the world—a power great enough, if it could be directed to a single purpose, to turn the whole current of world progress in the direction of peace, liberty and restoration. Unfortunately, this fellowship is not a single coherent united force, but on the contrary is divided into many scores of branches, sects and denominations which for generations past have been pursuing each its own independent way. One may recognize the historic need which drove the churches apart. One may appreciate to the full the inestimable spiritual treasures which the various denominations have made available to mankind. And still one may agree with the increasing number of Christians

in all countries who hold that denominationalism in its exclusive and un-coöperative forms is the chief and tragic weakness of the Church of Christ today.

The movements for Christian unity today fall into two main categories.

The first consists of those mergers, conferences and discussions which are directed toward reducing the number of denominations and moving in the direction of one united Church. The promotion of this movement throughout the world is the purpose of the World Conference on Faith and Order, to be held in Edinburgh.

The second aspect of the Christian unity movement is in the field of coöperation by the churches in the application of the principles of Christ's Gospel to the practical problems of our time. To promote this object is the purpose of the world conference of Life and Work, which will assemble in Oxford.

The test of whether or not the Oxford and Edinburgh Conferences become historic landmarks in the movement for Christian unity will be not so much what is done at the conferences themselves as what is done in the Christian churches throughout the world before and after the conferences. It will avail little for the Conference at Oxford to issue a message on the Christian attitude toward the totalitarian state unless a substantial number of the 650,000,000 Christian church members throughout the world accept and act on that message. On the other hand, what a transformation would be wrought in international relations if only a small part of this multitude of professing Christians took seriously two elementary Christian doctrines: that the Church of Christ is a universal body embracing in the fellowship of its love all those who profess allegiance to the Master, regardless of race or color or nationality; that the claims of Christ and His Gospel take precedence over the claims of any earthly power, even a State!

(A sixteen-page pamphlet entitled "The Churches Move to Meet the Crisis," of which this editorial is an abbreviation, may be had upon request.)

What the Preaching Mission Is Not

For an adequate understanding of the true genius and spirit of the National Preaching Mis-

sion, which is to be conducted from mid-September to mid-December, three possible misconceptions need to be avoided.

1. The Mission is not a display of "star preaching." Great preachers are associated with it—and others are to be added—but they go to the various communities only as coöperators with their Christian brethren in reinforcing the permanent ministry of the local churches. The greatness of the Preaching Mission is not in its preachers but in the Gospel that they preach.

2. The Mission is not limited to twenty-five major cities. While twenty-five metropolitan centers will feel the first direct impact of the Mission, the extension program, reaching out from each of these centers over wide areas, will bring hundreds of communities within the range of the Mission's work and influence. Moreover, strong emphasis is being laid on the simultaneous holding of preaching missions in local parishes throughout the country. Thus every minister of every denomination may be an active participant in the National Preaching Mission.

3. The Mission is not trying to "put over" any particular social program. It has nothing to urge except the Christian Gospel. It conceives the Gospel as having dynamic significance for all the burning issues of our contemporary world but it will not identify the Gospel with anyone's pet formula or ism. What the Mission aims to do is to confront the American people afresh with the summons to a living faith in God, a personal dedication to Christ and a discipleship to Him in every aspect of their relations with their fellowmen. The Mission will not set forth the specific solution of our problems, but it may, under the guidance of God, create the spiritual atmosphere in which alone those problems can be solved.

Cultivating the Grace of Giving

An article in the *Key Reporter*, the Phi Beta Kappa news magazine, by Acting President A. C. Marts of Bucknell University, raises the question, "Should Colleges Train Philanthropists?" In spite of the vast development of voluntary philanthropy, President Marts finds a serious "crust of inhibitions which seems almost

racial in its formation." People display an instinctive fear of receiving in person pleas for support of worthy agencies. Dr. Marts recounts the amusing instance of a rich man in a college town who actually kept to his bed or scurried through the back streets lest he should be solicited during the campaign on behalf of the local college. The pertinent suggestion is made that colleges should give instruction on the subject of philanthropy in connection with regular courses in history, economics, sociology, psychology and ethics.

No one, however, will deny that unless more than this is done the streams of altruism are in danger of becoming pools of stagnant waters. With hearty appreciation of whatever the colleges may do to increase social responsibility and habits of philanthropy, church leaders must vigilantly discharge their responsibilities of stewardship education.

If the benevolent contributions of the major denominations may be taken as the index of pure philanthropy, through which no direct return comes to the donor, it is evident that most churches are seriously failing in leading all their people to the great springs of philanthropy found in the spiritual life. Of course there are many who know the satisfaction of proportionate and systematic giving, but the rank and file of the Church has not yet been reached with stewardship education. Last year the average benevolent giving reported by all great denominations was less than two cents a day. One of the most noted church bodies notes an annual per capita gift for benevolences of \$1.57, less than half a cent a day for the whole world service program of the denomination.

A friend of the Federal Council of Churches has sent us an intimate glimpse into the life and attitude of Clem Studebaker, whose service in industry, church and state is well remembered by many now living. "I was closely associated with Mr. Studebaker for more than a quarter of a century and I'll never forget the many calls he had for help and his willingness to contribute his time as well as his money. One day we were assembled in an executive committee meeting when the usher brought in a card. . . . Mr. Studebaker excused himself. . . . As he was the

President . . . the meeting went into recess during his absence, which was not over five minutes. When he came back he showed me the card and said to me quietly, 'Never miss the opportunity to be of service to a minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.' Upon that platform he lived a useful life, a helpful, constructive life." Those who are engaged in the direction of religious and philanthropic agencies have no greater need than the assurance of such interest and partnership as this layman demonstrated throughout his useful life.

When the Church "Interferes"

Again and again when the churches undertake to concern themselves actively with some great issue of human welfare and social justice the complaint is made that they are meddling in affairs which are quite outside their proper realm. In the Orange Free State, South Africa, for example, there was a recent illuminating illustration. The Minister of Native Affairs, commenting on the interest of leaders of the Anglican Church in protecting the rights of the native peoples, had protested against what he called "the Church's interference in affairs which are not its concern." To this the Synod of the Church, meeting in Bloemfontein, replied, in part:

"That devotion by the churches of South Africa to the social and material advancement, and civic development of the native people may not rightly be condemned as 'political interference,' but should be recognized as the fulfilment of a duty involved in the ethics of the Christian religion. We feel that the duty of the churches is not only to evangelize the heathen, and to educate the ignorant, but to endeavor to secure for all sections of the population, regardless of race, class, or color, opportunities for advancement to the highest level they can attain."

It is easy for us, looking on objectively, to see that the action of the Church in South Africa is not a departure of the Church from its true mission but an expression of vital Christianity. It is important, but not so easy, to realize that the same thing is true of many an effort of the American churches which is criticized as "interference" in economic, social or political affairs.

Timely Study of Relation of Church and State

THE final meeting of the Committee which has been making a prolonged study of the relation of Church and State in America for the guidance of the churches in future policies was held on May 22. The draft of the report, which is to bear the title, "Church and State in Contemporary America," was approved in substance and the Chairman of the Committee, Dr. William Adams Brown, is now engaged in putting the manuscript into final form for the printer. The report is expected to appear in the fall.

This study of the problems of the Church in its relationship to the State is to serve as an important American contribution to the preparatory studies for the ecumenical conference on "Church, Community and State" which is to be held in Oxford, England, in the summer of 1937. The study was initiated long before the Oxford Conference was on the horizon, having been undertaken in response to a request of the Federal Council's Executive Committee to the Department of Research and Education. Since the study was first launched, the issue of Church and State has been brought into much greater prominence because of the emergence of the totalitarian State in Europe and the problems thus raised affecting the freedom and the function of the Church.

The study has been made by a group of thirty-seven members of various Christian communions. More than twenty unhurried meetings have been held either by the group as a whole or by the drafting committee. The membership of the Committee has included both distinguished ministers and laymen who have special competence in the field of American history and the social sciences. The lay members of the Committee include: Dr. Joseph P. Chamberlain, Professor of Public Law at Columbia University; Professor Evarts B. Greene, Past President of the American Historical Association and the leading authority on the history of Church and State in Colonial America; Honorable William E. Sweet, former Governor of Colorado; Professor Vida D. Scudder, of Wellesley College; Professor Herbert N. Shenton, of Syracuse University; Mrs. V. G. Simkhovitch, one of the foremost social workers of America; Mrs. John H. Finley; Mrs. Fred S. Bennett and Miss Anna V. Rice.

The aim of the study is to "re-think the basic principles" which define the nature and function of the Church in its relationship to government.

The study falls into three main divisions: Church and State in the World Today, Church and State in Contemporary America, Church and State in the World of Tomorrow.

The first division reviews the historic relations of Church and State at various stages in Christian history as a background for understanding the special problems which are faced today. The second section analyzes the position held by the major Protestant bodies and contains

also a special examination of the rather distinctive positions of American Lutheranism and of American Catholicism. This section also surveys the experience of the churches in dealing coöperatively, through the Federal Council, with ethical problems which are involved in social and political life. The third division of the study examines the growing tension between Church and State, proposes principles which should be borne in mind in seeking a right solution of their relationships and sets up certain guideposts for the future.

Other studies on the relation of Church and State are being carried forward at the present time in Europe under the auspices of the Research Department of the Universal Christian Council for Life and Work and all the material thus produced will be contributory to the discussions at the Oxford Conference next year.

Ecumenical Meetings This Summer

A change has been found necessary in the meeting place of the Universal Christian Council and the World Alliance for International Friendship Through the Churches this summer. Instead of meeting at Pau, in the south of France, as announced in the May BULLETIN, the two bodies will assemble at Chamby, near Montreux, Switzerland, which is the same place where the meetings were held in 1935. The dates for the World Alliance meeting are August 14-19 and for the Universal Christian Council, August 20-25.

The meeting of the Continuation Committee of the World Conference on Faith and Order is to be held at the St. George School, Clarens, which is very near Chamby. The dates of this meeting are August 31-September 3.

The spring meeting of the American Section of the Universal Christian Council was held in New York on May 21 under the chairmanship of Dr. S. Parkes Cadman, with Mrs. William Adams Brown serving as Vice-Chairman. The plans for American participation in the Oxford Conference on "Church, Community and State," in 1937, were studied in detail and provision was made for the representation of the American churches by nineteen delegates at the meeting of the Universal Christian Council which will be held at Chamby this summer in preparation for the ecumenical conference of next year. A feature of special interest at the meeting of the American Section was an address by Honorable Max Brauer, of Altona, Germany, formerly Chairman of the Diet of Schleswig-Holstein, who discussed the question of the crisis in Germany today from the standpoint of a Lutheran layman who has been deeply impressed by the tragic effects of Nazi policy upon the churches, both Catholic and Protestant, in Germany.

Summer Programs of Religious Radio

THE program of religious broadcasting sponsored by the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America over the networks of the National Broadcasting Company continues uninterruptedly throughout the summer months. The voices which were heard last summer will all be heard again this season, taking the place of those who have been the radio speakers during the winter season.

The schedule of broadcasts during the summer period is as follows:

Morning Devotions, daily except Sundays, 8:00-8:15 A.M., over WJZ and network. Various ministers officiating.

Sabbath Reveries, Sundays, 10:00-10:30 A.M., beginning May 24, over WEA and network. Dr. Charles L. Goodell.

Sunday Forum, Sundays, 1:30-2:00 P.M., until the beginning of August, over WJZ and network. Dr. Ralph W. Sockman.

Highlights of the Bible, Sundays, 1:30-2:00 P.M., beginning

August 2, over WJZ and network. Dr. Frederick K. Stamm.

Sunday Vespers, Sundays, 4:00-4:30 P.M., June 7-October 1, over WJZ and network. Dr. Paul E. Scherer.

The Art of Living, Saturdays, 6:45-7:00 P.M., beginning July 4, over WEA and network. Dr. Norman Vincent Peale.

The Trail-Finder, Wednesdays, 11:15-11:30 A.M., over WJZ and network. Dr. William Thompson Hanzsche.

Midweek Hymn-Sing, Tuesdays, 6:15-6:30 P.M., over WEA and network, under the direction of Arthur Billings Hunt.

The time, as announced in each case, is Eastern Daylight Saving Time.

Ministers who expect to be in New York City at some time during the summer months and who would be interested in availing themselves of the opportunity of conducting the Daily Morning Devotions are invited to communicate with Frank C. Goodman, Secretary of the Federal Council's Department of Religious Radio, 105 East 22nd Street, New York, about the matter.

Program of Extension of Preaching Mission

ONE of the outcomes of the Conference and Retreat on the National Preaching Mission, held at East Orange, N. J., April 30 and May 1, was a more pronounced emphasis upon plans for making the influence of the Mission effective in a much greater number of communities than was originally contemplated. In addition to visits to twenty-five great centers of population by the international group between mid-September and mid-December, spending four days in each city, two-day preaching missions are being urged in many other cities. These two-day missions will constitute an extension program projected on a state-wide or regional basis and drawing for its leadership upon many others than those who participate in the original schedule of twenty-five cities.

As a means of conserving the values of the Preaching Mission it is being proposed that local parishes of all denominations observe a simultaneous eight-day preaching mission, from Sunday to Sunday, in November. In this way it is hoped that the values of the National Mission will be intensified and rooted in the local church.

Methods of making the Mission distinctly evangelistic in its results were considered at the East Orange Conference and it was agreed that some provision should be made for recording decisions to begin the Christian life or to take new steps in Christian discipleship.

The significance of the Christian Gospel for social and

international life will be emphasized in several of the "seminars", which are to constitute an important part of the total program.

Representatives of cities as separated as San Francisco, Dallas and Boston were present at the East Orange meeting. Encouraging reports were received as to the preparations which have already been made and as to the high expectancy which the plans have aroused.

A second retreat, especially for the purpose of spiritual preparation, is to be held September 8 and 9 at Beaver College, Jenkintown, Pa., immediately upon the arrival of Dr. E. Stanley Jones from India. At that time it is planned to have virtually all of the speakers and leaders together for a period of unhurried consultation and prayer.

A Preaching Mission handbook has been prepared, outlining in detail the plans for the conduct of the Mission in each of the cities. Another handbook, dealing with the eight-day preaching mission, is also in preparation for the guidance of local churches which desire to share in the nation-wide movement and to incorporate the spirit of the Mission in their own local programs.

Steady progress is being made in securing the necessary underwritings for the program in the various cities. In Birmingham, Ala., the necessary financial support was guaranteed in underwritings which were secured within the period of one minute and a half.

Increasing Inter-Council Cooperation

AS a result of the work and influence of the Inter-Council Field Committee during the past year, substantial progress has been made in bringing about an effective integration of the work of the Federal Council of Churches, the Home Missions Councils and the International Council of Religious Education. This progress is revealed in a report which is being presented by the Federal Council's Field Department to the Executive Committee of the Council at its June meeting. The coöperative undertakings now include a joint approach in building up inclusive councils of churches in state and local areas, a united youth program and an experiment in the State of Ohio looking toward a coördination of the churches with all character-building agencies. Other common interests of the several organizations include the National Preaching Mission, which was projected by the Federal Council but is being supported by the other agencies as well, and the National Protestant Laymen's Commission on Character-Building, launched by the International Council of Religious Education with the friendly coöperation of the other interdenominational bodies.

Two patterns of inter-council coöperation were recommended by the last meeting of the Inter-Council Field Committee. In the case of projects which are more particularly within the field of one of the councils, but in which others have a collateral interest, the administration of the project is assigned by the Inter-Council Field

Committee to one of the organizations, with the understanding that the others maintain an advisory relationship. In the case of projects which are more clearly of major significance to all the interdenominational organizations, the projects may be administered by the Inter-Council Field Committee itself, subject to the approval of the participating organizations. The United Youth Movement and the National Preaching Mission fall within the first classification, the Youth Movement being primarily the responsibility of the International Council of Religious Education and the Preaching Mission the special responsibility of the Federal Council. The experiment in the coördination of character-building agencies in Ohio and the United Adult Movement, which is to be projected this summer through a conference held at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, were recognized as falling within the second pattern.

The National Council of Federated Church Women and the Foreign Missions Conference of North America have also been invited to be represented on the Inter-Council Field Committee.

Each of the interdenominational bodies participating in the Inter-Council Field Committee maintains its own independence but through systematic provision for conference and consultation on all matters of common interest a gratifying measure of coördination is being secured and a more unified Protestant strategy is being evolved.

Labor Sunday Message

COPIES of the Federal Council's Message for Labor Sunday (September 6) are available for ministers, church council secretaries and editors. They can be secured from the Department of the Church and Social Service, 105 East 22nd Street, New York. The price of the Message is four cents per single copy; \$1.20 per hundred; \$4.60 for 500; \$6.60 per thousand. The message is printed several weeks in advance in order to facilitate preparations for its use.

The following suggestions for the observance of the day are offered:

1. Ministers are requested to read the Message from their pulpits on Labor Sunday or on the first available Sunday thereafter, and to preach special sermons on the relation of Christianity to industrial problems and the ideal of a Christian social order.

2. A copy of the Message may be posted on the church bulletin board and left there for several weeks for the benefit of those not present on Labor Sunday.

3. Many churches give out copies to their congregations at the close of the Labor Sunday service, or at least secure copies for all church officers.

4. Special prayers appropriate for Labor Sunday will be found in "Prayers of the Social Awakening" by Walter Rauschenbusch (Pilgrim Press, Boston, 75 cents) and in "Prayers for Self and Society" by James Myers (Association Press, New York, 15 cents).

5. A union service may be arranged for a number of churches with speakers representing labor, employers, city or state officials, social workers and the Church. Such union services held out-of-doors in public parks have been very successful in many cities. A parade from the churches, headed by ministers and choirs in full vestments and carrying Christian flags, makes an effective public dramatization of the Church's interest. The parade should include labor and civic organizations with their own banners. The Salvation Army Band or others would add effectiveness.

6. The presidents of the local ministers' associations or of councils of churches are requested to give the Message to the local press for release Monday, August 31.

7. Quotations from the Labor Sunday Message may be included in broadcasting on Labor Sunday.

8. The young people's society, Bible class, women's

missionary society or other church groups may also read the Message and special prayers and have special speakers.

9. A committee for the purpose of planning the pro-

gram of social action for the winter may be appointed. In this connection send to the Federal Council for a copy of the pamphlet, "Churches in Social Action: Why and How" (ten cents).

New York State Conference on the Family

The Committee on Marriage and the Home, through its Secretary, Dr. L. Foster Wood, is cooperating in plans and preparation for a State Conference on Marriage and the Family to be held in New York June 5 and 6 at the Hotel Roosevelt. The outstanding feature is the dinner meeting on June 5, at which addresses will be given by the Honorable Herbert H. Lehman, Governor of the State of New York, on the subject, "Marriage and the Family and the Responsibility of the State," and by President Albert W. Beaven of the Colgate-Rochester Divinity School, on "The Church and the Family."

The conference is being organized under a representative committee on the basis of interfaith fellowship, and with representation of the most important organizations in the field of marriage and family life, both secular and religious. The universities, the various professions and the many different approaches to the study of marriage and family life are represented in the program. Further information can be secured by writing the New York State Conference on Marriage and the Family, 50 West 50th Street, New York.

Dr. Wood's summer program keeps him busy from the first of June to the end of August in a series of summer conferences and assemblies in Texas, North Carolina, Wisconsin, Iowa and New York State.

Vacation at Chautauqua

Buildings donated by E. C. Westervelt make it possible for the Chautauqua Ministers Union to offer ministers and their wives a vacation for two weeks at Chautauqua with rent free and the use of the community kitchen. This does not include children. The rooms are furnished except bed linen and the kitchen except linen and silverware. The upkeep of the buildings is met by voluntary contributions from those who enjoy the privileges.

Further information and reservations may be had by writing Mrs. E. S. Shaw, Chautauqua, N. Y. and enclosing a self-addressed stamped envelope for reply. The Chautauqua Institution, Chautauqua, N. Y., will furnish literature concerning the program for the season July 4th to August 30th, 1936, on request.

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Conserving Results of Kagawa's Visit

A call has been sent out for an international conference to be held at Lake Geneva, Wis., June 27-30, for the purpose of considering how the influences released by Dr. Kagawa's visit to America may be geared into the ongoing program of the churches. The conference is being convened by the National Kagawa Coördinating Advisory Committee, of which Leslie B. Moss, of the Foreign Missions Conference, is Chairman and Dr. J. Henry Carpenter, of the Brooklyn Church and Mission Federation, is Executive Secretary.

During the conference Dr. Kagawa is scheduled to give three addresses on the following subjects:

The Spiritual Significance of Life

The Meaning of the Cross

The Christian Coöperative Internationale.

Among the other addresses will be "Religion and Social Action," by James Myers; "Achieving Economic Brotherhood in America," by E. R. Bowen; "Christianity's World Responsibility," by Douglas Horton. Much time will be devoted to discussion groups which will consider in detail how the objectives for which Dr. Kagawa has been working can become an integral part of their programs. A concluding consecration service will be held by Dr. Charles W. Gilkey of the University of Chicago.

Dr. Holt's Engagements

Dr. Ivan Lee Holt, President of the Federal Council of Churches, is in constant demand as a speaker at important gatherings of national significance. Hardly a week passes without one or more engagements. On May 14, he was one of the leading speakers before the Fifteenth Annual Convention of the American Red Cross, held in Chicago. During the month, he also spoke before the National Council of Federated Church Women, in Dayton, Ohio; the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in Columbus, Ohio, and the Northern Baptist Convention, in St. Louis, Mo.

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—Halford E. Luccock.

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Church Women in Interracial Conference

On May 15, two hundred church women from the white and Negro churches of New York met at Riverside Church to consider ways of working together for better race relations. Sponsored by the Federal Council of Churches, the Greater New York Federation of Churches and the Missionary Education Movement, the conference was planned to focus attention on problems which confront the Negroes and also to foster interest in this year's mission study of the Negro in America.

After talks by Mrs. Harry Emerson Fosdick of Riverside Church and Mrs. Josephine Pinyon Holmes, Negro staff member of the New York State Employment Office, on "Life's Relationships"—in the home, the church, the community and employment—the delegates met in small groups for discussion. At the afternoon session, findings from these discussions were given to the whole conference by Miss Rhoda E. McCulloch of the *Woman's Press*. Play facilities and nursery schools for Harlem children, vocational courses adapted to changing industrial situations and the opening of more employment opportunities for Negro youth were stressed as immediate needs. There was a recognition of the vital part played by the home and the church in preparing children of both races to deal with conflict situations, and a desire for new thinking and action by the individual delegates on the problems of race relations.

A resolution condemning the lack of action on the Costigan-Wagner Anti-Lynching Bill and urging Congress to enact this law was unanimously adopted. An outline was given of the study books on the Negro which will be published by the Missionary Education Movement. The delegates agreed to promote the study of these books in their churches, and asked for another meeting in the fall or winter for further study and action.

Help Needed for Share-Croppers

James Myers, Industrial Secretary of the Federal Council, recently visited the Delta Coöperative Farm at Hillhouse, Miss., which Sherwood Eddy has helped to start for former share-croppers. He was deeply impressed with the amazing progress made in a few weeks by these families, Negro and white, who had already cleared, plowed and planted 140 acres of land, built six houses, and who are developing a hopeful coöperative community. "I feel like a free man for the first time," was a common expression of these men who have lived so long under the old system which is so close to economic feudalism. They have a chance at last to show what they can do for themselves. Mr. Myers believes that this coöperative farm can succeed and be a valuable demonstration of great social significance.

At present, in the early stage of the experiment, the need for financial help is urgent. Over \$500 a month is needed for the simplest rations and other initial expenses. Urgent needs also include funds for the purchase of the saw-mill on the place to utilize and sell the valuable timber (\$2,000); the nucleus of a dairy herd (\$1,000 or less); a hog farm (\$600); a poultry farm (\$300); a temporary social center (\$500); a second-hand piano, radio, typewriter, mimeograph; playground equipment (\$50); First Aid Kit (\$25), etc.

The Church Emergency Relief Committee, 287 Fourth Avenue, New York, has been asked by Dr. Eddy to raise the money for daily food for these families until their gardens come in and the first cotton crop supplies cash for staples. Contributions for the other needs will also be gladly received and charter membership issued to those contributing \$100 or more.

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Cooperation of Pastors Urged in CCC Work

With a view to acquainting clergymen with the need for the coöperation of local pastors with the chaplains of the Civilian Conservation Corps camps and encouraging them to assist in providing a religious ministry in those sections of the country where the camps do not have adequate service, the General Committee on Army and Navy Chaplains has communicated with the denominational headquarters, requesting that this matter be taken up at the annual meetings and that the ministers be urged to accept such claims as parish responsibilities.

Ecumenical Seminar

The rising interest in the ecumenical character of the Church is indicated in the impressive list of lecturers who are announced in connection with the third "Ecumenical Seminar," which is to be held in Geneva, Switzerland, July 28-August 15. Fifteen outstanding theological leaders of various communions and various countries are to give lectures to the international group which will assemble to think and study together about the larger aspects of Christian thought today. Those from America who will serve as members of the faculty are:

Professor Tillich, of Union Theological Seminary, New York; Professor Gavin, of the General Theological Seminary, New York, and Dr. E. G. Homrighausen, of Indianapolis.

Other distinguished speakers will be: Professor Dibelius, of Heidelberg; Professor Thurneysen, of Basle; Dr. Hans Lilje, of Berlin, and Professor Vyscheslavzeff, of the Russian Orthodox Academy in Paris.

The director of the Seminar is Dr. Adolf Keller, of Geneva, whose work in behalf of the evangelical churches of Europe is well known in this country.

NEWS OF STATE AND LOCAL COÖPERATION

New Haven Council Serves County Jail

For the past several years the New Haven Council of Churches has maintained a worker in the County Jail. He is selected annually from students in the Yale Divinity School and gives twenty hours of his time each week. He is recognized by the inmates as a representative of the churches of the city—a visible proof that the Church is not oblivious to their unfortunate plight.

A religious service is conducted every morning in the mess hall. The speakers are chosen from New Haven ministers and music is usually provided by choir members from a city church. Attendance is voluntary but the service usually attracts between seventy and eighty per cent of the jail population. Occasionally special musical entertainments are given.

Three nights each week, from 6:30 to 9:30 o'clock, the worker visits the jail and holds personal interviews with the men in the cell blocks. Friendly contacts are made, religious interest is inquired into, personal and family problems are discussed and plans for the future of the prisoner are considered.

The personal interviews frequently open up ways in which the worker can be of service to the men by attending to matters on the outside. For instance, one inmate wished to regain possession of personal belongings which had been left with a friend in New York. He did not know his friend's address. He knew only his name and that he had at one time been employed by the W.P.A. in New York. With this information it was possible to trace the man's property and secure its recovery. Sometimes the worker is able to straighten out family difficulties. A few months ago a woman with three small children was determined to divorce her husband because of the trouble which had resulted in his commitment to jail. The worker was able to bring about a reconciliation after studying their difficulties and consulting with both parties.

The worker speaks on the subject of jail work before church groups and societies. These meetings usually lead to discussions on such subjects as the causes of crime, social background of lawbreakers, and

needed reforms in the jail system. They frequently stimulate sympathetic interest and lead groups to undertake definite projects for the welfare of inmates.

Annual Conference of Council Executives

The annual summer conference of the Association of Executive Secretaries of Councils of Churches will be held at Conference Point, Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, June 27-July 3, jointly with the Employed Officers' Association of Councils of Religious Education. The program begins with an address by Dr. Toyohiko Kagawa, who will speak several times at a special conference at the Y.M.C.A. Camp at Lake Geneva, called by the National Advisory Coördinating Committee for the purpose of conserving the benefits of Dr. Kagawa's itinerary in the United States this year.

The regular program dealing with the work of councils of churches and councils of religious education will include a seminar period each morning, led by Professor W. C. Bower of the University of Chicago, Chairman of the Department of Religious Education of the Chicago Church Federation. Another feature of special interest will be the joint conference of the executive secretaries each afternoon, led by Dr. Samuel McCrea Cavert, General Secretary of the Federal Council, and Dr. Roy G. Ross, General Secretary of the International Council of Religious Education.

Accommodations will be provided on the conference grounds, from June 27 to July 3, for \$9 per person. Further information can be secured by writing to the Chairman of the Program Committee, Rev. Ernest N. Evans, Secretary of the Indianapolis Church Federation, Y.M.C.A. Building, Indianapolis, Ind. Associated with Dr. Evans in arranging the program are the President of the Association, Mr. Walter R. Mee of Chicago, and Rev. J. Henry Carpenter, Secretary of the Brooklyn Church and Mission Federation.

A joint conference of the staffs of the Federal Council of Churches, the International Council of Religious Education, the Home Missions Councils and the National Council of Federated Church Women will be held at Lake Geneva, June 26 and 27, preceding the other gatherings.

Twenty-Five Years of Coöperation in Pennsylvania

The Pennsylvania Council of Churches observed its twenty-fifth anniversary at Harrisburg, April 27 and 28. The State Women's Conference, under the auspices of the Women's Department of the Council, met in connection with it, as did the State Christian Youth Conference. The convention theme was "Coöperative Christianity Marches On." Bishop G. D. Batdorf, President of the Council, preached the convention sermon. The speakers included Dr. Toyohiko Kagawa, Dr. William R. King, Rev. S. Charles Hoover, Dr. John Sutherland Bonnell, Dr. Norman Vincent Peale, Dean Luther A. Weigle, Dr. Jesse M. Bader, Dr. Raphael H. Miller and Dr. William Hiram Foulkes.

During the past twenty-five years there has not been a year when the attendance at the annual meeting has not exceeded the attendance at the preceding meeting. The membership of the Council now includes twenty-five evangelical bodies having over two million communicant members, or five-sixths of the Protestant church membership of the State. The Council coöperates very closely with other organizations in the spheres of Christian education, social welfare, reform and world peace.

Rev. William L. Mudge, Executive Secretary, has been the leading influence in developing the Council to its present position of strength.

Washington Holds Greatest Annual Meeting

The Washington Federation of Churches held its Annual Meeting on April 28, with a larger attendance than at any preceding annual meeting. Five hundred and fifty persons were present. Dr. Joseph R. Sizoo, who was closing his service as pastor of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, was the speaker.

The report of the Committee on Race Relations awakened great interest because during that year the Committee had inaugurated and furthered the movement which resulted in opening the fellowship of the Federation to the Negro churches.

The Women's Council has been a strong

factor in the work. The October Missionary Institute brought over seven hundred women together from 149 of the local churches.

Seven more churches have joined the Federation, making the membership at present 129 churches from 20 denominations.

Dr. William L. Darby is the Executive Secretary, having held this position for sixteen years.

Cincinnati Promotes Forums

An Interdenominational Laymen's Forum, under the auspices of the Cincinnati Federation of Churches, was held on May 9. A fellowship supper was served between the afternoon and evening sessions. The program was arranged by the Laymen's Committee and the topics for discussion included the vital questions in which laymen are interested. This forum will be followed by others in various districts of Cincinnati.

The Protestant Church Forum, under the auspices of the Federation of Churches, closed with a meeting addressed by Dr. Kagawa in the Taft Auditorium. The other meetings of the forum had an average attendance of about seven hundred. The speakers were Dr. Henry Sloane Coffin, Dr. Mordecai Johnson, Dr. Paul Scherer, and Professor Halford E. Luccock.

Rev. Henry Pearce Atkins begins his eighteenth year of service as Executive Secretary of the Federation.

Philadelphia Stresses International and Interracial Goodwill

At the annual meeting of the Philadelphia Federation of Churches on April 21, the reports for the year recorded important

work in the field of comity and active interest in international peace. The Chairman of the International Relations Committee is serving for the third year as Chairman of the Citizens Community Armistice Committee. The Federation organized the Church Division of the Peace Parade last Armistice Day. The Second Annual Interracial Seminar was held during the week of Lincoln's Birthday. The report of the Secretary called attention to the fact that there is no city-wide movement for the interests of religion or the welfare of humanity in which the Federation does not have a conspicuous place.

The Finance Committee graphically presented the needs of the Federation in the form of a bridge in which there were 365 stones, one for each day of the year, each stone representing the daily cost of operation. The stones were allocated to the denominations upon the basis of their strength and past cooperation.

Dr. E. A. E. Palmquist, the executive, and Miss Mabel Butterworth, the assistant executive, will complete sixteen years of service in November.

Cleveland Carries on Health Education

The Interchurch Health Council has recently been organized by the Cleveland Church Federation for the purpose of presenting through the churches health subjects, prevention of disease and the work of existing health agencies. It is sponsored and executed under the leadership of Miss Virginia Wing of the Anti-Tuberculosis League and the County Commissioners, and has the support of the Cleveland Health Council and the Academy of Medicine. Mrs. Gertrude Cody Wheaton is

supervisor for the white churches and Mrs. C. E. McFadden for the Negro churches. Eighteen meetings were scheduled in churches during the first week of May.

Pittsburgh Women Work in Morals Court

The activities of the Women's Department of the Pittsburgh Council of Churches include the work of the Morals Court in connection with white women and girls and family cases. Mrs. Eleanor Srodes is the Court Worker. The Negro Department also keeps a full-time worker at Morals Court, Mrs. Eva Hall. These two workers handle 1,500 cases in a year's time at that court.

The Women's Department is also majoring in the subject of peace. Mrs. Harry G. Samson, Chairman of the Department, prepared a booklet entitled "World Peace Program," that has had a good circulation. The Department has held many meetings on peace and cooperated with other groups that bring speakers of note to the city.

Kansas City Re-studies Educational Work

The Kansas City Council of Churches condensed into three days, May 1, 2, and 3, a series of conferences which took the form of a re-study of the educational work of the Council and of the work of Christian education being carried on in Kansas City by various denominations. Dr. Forrest L. Knapp and Dr. Harry C. Munro of the International Council of Religious Education, and Dr. F. A. Lindhorst of the Methodist Episcopal Board, participated in a dozen conferences, most of them bringing together a selected group of people for a two-hour discussion of some phase of the educational work. It was the first time the educational committees of the various denominations working in Kansas City had faced the possibility of coordinating some of the things they are doing.

The Passing of Dr. Laidlaw

Dr. Walter Laidlaw, one of the pioneers in the development of church federations, died suddenly in New York on May 20. He was the chief founder of the New York Federation of Churches in 1895 and served as its secretary until 1921. In later years he became one of the leading statistical experts on both religious and social conditions in New York. His best known work was a study of population changes, made as executive secretary of the City Census Committee, which was an authoritative survey of the various racial elements and trends in the population of the metropolis.

Episcopal Church Provides Worker for Presbyterian Church

A striking case of interdenominational comity and cooperation between two local parishes is the decision of the Church of the Ascension (Protestant Episcopal) in New York to provide a trained social

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worker for the staff of Labor Temple (Presbyterian) in the same city. The rector of the Church of the Ascension, Dr. Donald B. Aldrich, after a recent sermon concerning the way in which the other half lives in New York, suggested that his parish do something to express its interest in the problem by coöperating with Labor Temple, a pioneering experiment launched for the purpose of bringing immigrant and labor groups into closer contact with the Church. Dr. Aldrich pointed out that it would be of greater value for the Church of the Ascension to reinforce this enter-

prise of Labor Temple than to launch an independent and perhaps feeble effort of its own. The church rose to the suggestion with enthusiasm and raised a special fund for enrolling Miss Rose Phelps, an experienced social worker, as a member of the Labor Temple staff.

Seattle Council
Commended by Newspaper

The *Seattle Daily Times* on May 9 carried a lengthy editorial commenting appreciatively upon the work of the Council of Churches and Christian Education and

advising citizens to give it financial support. It said in part:

"The duty of supporting the churches of Seattle rests mainly upon the members of each church. The duty of supporting the Seattle Council of Churches and Christian Education is a community obligation which rests upon all members of the community.

"It is a great and good work that the Council of Churches has been carrying forward in this city for a number of years. It is a work which should be kept in pace with the city's progress in material things."

AMONG THE BEST NEW BOOKS

Christianity and Communism

CREATIVE SOCIETY. By JOHN MACMURRAY. Association Press. \$1.50.
CHRISTIANITY CONFRONTS COMMUNISM. By MATTHEW SPINKA. Harper. \$2.00.

These two volumes, very different in their outlook, provide a needed balance for each other, supplementing and at times challenging each other's position. Professor Macmurray, one of the leading philosophers of England, discerns a very close relation between the religion of Jesus and Communism. Professor Spinka, of the Chicago Theological Seminary, on the other hand, is impressed by the hostility of Communism to all religion, both in its practice and in its essential ideas. Professor Macmurray readily admits that Communism fails to be Christian at two points: first, it sees life as merely temporal; secondly, it is exclusively preoccupied with the hunger-impulse and ignores that aspect of life which is grounded in the

love-impulse. It is the task of Christianity, in Professor Macmurray's view, by friendly contacts to transform Communism at these points, but he insists that it cannot do so until it "revolutionizes itself," and "regains its own substance." Christianity has been led into a corrupting by-path by its tendency to locate God in an ideal realm instead of finding Him actually present in society. Communism, Professor Macmurray holds, in spite of its avowal of atheism, really reveals a faith in the God that it denies, and it has a realistic understanding of society that the Christianity of today needs.

Dr. Spinka's policy for Christianity, on the other hand, sounds the note of conflict. It must reject the basic postulates of Communism concerning religion. It cannot stop here, however; the one way in which it can succeed in the conflict is to demonstrate that it can correct the admitted injustices of our economic order and develop a stronger passion for human welfare than Communism can show. "The only thing to pit against integral Communism is integral Christianity; not rhetorical, tattered, decadent Christianity, but renascent Christianity, working out its eternal truth towards consistent life, consistent culture, consistent social justice." Certainly Professor Spinka offers no encouragement to those who try to discredit

all orderly social change by labeling it "communistic." He would have them see that to stand against needed social changes is to further the very revolution that they fear.
S. M. C.

See These Banners Go

By FRANK S. MEAD
Bobbs-Merrill. \$2.00

A popular interpretation of the rise and development of the major American churches, this book will serve an especially useful purpose for the average layman, who will not read elaborate histories but does want to have an intelligent grasp of our religious background. Mr. Mead tells the story of the Episcopalians, the Congregationalists, the Reformed Church, the Lutherans, the Baptists, the Presbyterians, the Methodists, the Quakers, and the Disciples of Christ. He portrays the origin of each of these groups, the high points in its history, and its contribution to our national life. While not glossing over the failures and the schisms, the chief emphasis is on the constructive achievements, which are described with such an infectious enthusiasm that the reader almost feels that the author must himself belong to all of the denominations that he describes!

A modern search
for God

The author of that stirring plea for peace—*Cry Havoc!*—has written a book on faith and religion, recording a young man's spiritual progress from darkness into light. "I think the book is absolutely brilliant," writes Rev. Samuel Shoemaker, Calvary Episcopal Church, New York. "I feel sure it will have a profound effect throughout America as well as England."

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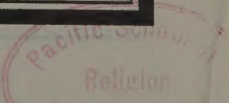
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The Psychology of Christian Personality

By ERNEST H. LIGON

Macmillan Co. \$3.00

A member of the faculty of psychology at Union College interprets the teachings of Jesus in terms of modern psychology, having three groups of readers in mind: parents, ministers, and those Christian men and women who have lost their way and no longer find religion valid for human living. The book is a commentary on the

Sermon on the Mount, showing that its teachings are "in accord with all we know of the psychology of personality." It is a great advance in freshness and original insight upon the traditional commentaries.

The substance of the entire volume is that "if one makes the Beatitudes his philosophy of life, he fulfills every requirement" of mental health. How illuminating this is beside the darksome cheerlessness of Freudianism and its satellites! The volume is constructive and cumulative throughout rather than negative and repressive. It regards faith in a fatherly God as essential to the most complete personality.

Dr. Ligon's treatment of anger as a foe of personality is illustrative. "Psychology has long recognized that fear and anger are the two greatest enemies of strong personality, but has not always suggested a workable way out." Jesus, however, "has

given a philosophy of God and man which requires the sort of faith that psychology finds healthy." "Love your enemies" is not "the impossible commandment"; it is "the commandment which it is impossible to be without."

This is like a refreshing breeze after so much of the miasma of the Bertrand Russells to which we have been subjected in recent years! In Professor Ligon we have a teacher who is not less, but more, of a psychologist because he makes a place for spiritual intuition and insight in his realm of science.

C. S. M.

The Art of Ministering to the Sick

By RICHARD C. CABOT and RUSSELL L. DICKS

Macmillan Co. \$3.00

This volume by a distinguished physician and a young clergyman illustrates the growing understanding between the medical profession and the ministry. The function of the clergyman, it is emphasized, is not to become an amateur psychiatrist but to make his own appropriate contribution in the spiritual realm. It is his part to "rouse the great energies, certainties, and faiths of the Christian religion." By doing so he brings something of distinct value, for the physical organs are "not independent machines but are linked in their adventures with a nervous system and with a conscious mind" which affect the whole condition of the body.

The counsel given by Dr. Cabot and Mr. Dicks, growing out of their experience in the Massachusetts General Hospital, is helpfully specific. They diagnose difficult problems—loneliness, boredom, fear, bitterness, and morbid obsessions of guilt—in which the clergyman can be of assistance. They show him how he can induce the mood of quietness and faith. They suggest the special procedures that are called for at critical opportunities, when, for example, the patient is facing an operation or is dying. The chapters which discuss prayer with the sick and the use of the Scriptures in the sick-room are of great practical value.

How to Increase Church Attendance

By ROGER W. BABSON

Revell. \$1.50

Poor attendance at church, Mr. Babson believes, is caused largely by the retention of outworn customs. "An important step in increasing the community's interest in the Church would be to simplify and broaden membership requirements."

Perhaps his most unique proposal is that instead of a series of services on Sunday, the church service and Sunday school should be coördinated. There should be a twenty-minute service of worship for all. After this "the people should separate into

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various groups. Those desiring to hear the sermon would stay in the auditorium with the minister; the younger ones should retire to other rooms for intensive Bible study; those desiring a service of song should be provided with a place and a leader; persons who are not yet interested in any of these features should be encouraged to retire to some room to discuss the civic and moral needs of the community; while those who insist upon going home, playing golf, or leaving for a trip should be free to do so."

A larger number of services should extend over the week in churches open all the time. "The midweek service will come back in churches which have given it up."

Daniel Bliss goes further in defining Mr. Babson's proposal for coördinating church service and Sunday school, including the oldest adults and the nursery children.

Winslow Webber urges the Church to help the people economically, to include physical and mental healing, develop coöperative associations, help the labor

movement and stop "hounding people for money."

Gail Cleland believes that the sermon and worship need vitalizing, the preaching to be practical and to have "news value." Elbert M. Conover would improve the church structure. The attachment of home and church is urged by Clement F. Hahn. George L. Thurlow would discourage birth control, believing that we do not have children enough to take the place of those who pass away. Edwin B. Robinson of Holyoke believes in keeping public records of attendance in an effort to reach goals, as do the clubs in seeking new members. Professor Vaughan Dabney tells us that the seminaries are "waking up" and making "a new attack on current problems through a trained ministry."

John L. Keedy would study psychologically the problem of "making the community church-minded." Robert W. Gammon urges the sending of young people to Northfield and similar conferences. James B. McKendry believes that "a Council of Religious Education should be organized in every community for the avowed purpose of developing and maintaining an adequate community program of religious education." Arthur L. Kinsolving has had with him "almost daily, a burden and a great hope: that our educa-

tional institutions shall be redeemed as Christian." Church advertising is recommended by Herbert D. Rugg. Glenn Clark would make the church more a house of prayer. Professor Edwin H. Byington suggests "projects" to develop the needed loyalty. The problem is so great that, according to Rembert Gilman Smith, it calls for an intensive campaign, with clearly defined goals and mobilization.

Whatever one may think of some of the concrete proposals, there is much that is challenging and stimulating in this symposium.

C. S. M.

A Correction

Through an inadvertent typographical error in the review of Dr. Halford E. Luccock's "Christian Faith and Economic Change" (Abingdon Press) in the May issue of the BULLETIN, a curious injustice was done to Dr. Luccock's book. Through an inexplicable mystery, the word "not" slipped into the first sentence and the result was to create the opposite impression from what was intended. The sentence should have read "Dr. Luccock's primary concern is to penetrate into a deeper understanding of the Christian Gospel and to use its teachings as the standard for judging our contemporary practice."

As you face life's sunset ...

ARE YOU THREATENED BY
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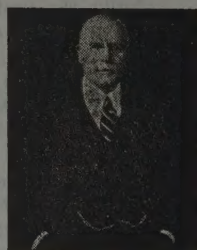
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